

Message Text

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ORIGIN NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 ERDA-05 /052 R

DRAFTED BY NASA/I/PATHIBIDEAU:GG
APPROVED BY OES/APT/SEP:RGMORRIS
NASA/I/AWFRUTKIN
NASA/I/BMZOOK
OES/APT/SEP:WDECLERCQ
OES/APT/SA:IPIKUS
EUR/EE:ISILINS

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P 102210Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053685

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: TSPA, RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN DISCUSSIONS WITH NASA

FOR SCIATT

1. EUGEN MANDESCU, SECRETARY GENERAL, ROMANIAN COMMISSION
FOR SPACE ACTIVITIES, MET AT HIS REQUEST WITH ARNOLD
FRUTKIN, NASA ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS, ON FEBRUARY 23 TO DISCUSS:

----(A) PROFESSOR OPRESCU VISIT TO NASA;
----(B) ROMANIAN "DECISION" BUILD LANDSAT STATION;
----(C) ROMANIAN INTEREST COOPERATION IN ROCKET METEO-
----- ROLOGY;
----(D) ROMANIAN INTEREST COOPERATION USE OF SPACELAB/
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----- SHUTTLE.

2. OPRESCU, LANDSAT PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, AT NASA HEAD-
QUARTERS MARCH 3-9.SUMMARY DISCUSSIONS SEPTTEL.

3. MANDESCU REPORTED ROMANIAN DECISION BUILD LANDSAT
GROUND STATION BY EARLY '79, SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT WITH NASA

AND AVAILABILITY OF MOST EQUIPMENT REQUIRED. HE REQUESTED
(A) TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION, (B) ITINERARY FOR TEAM VISIT

EARLY APRIL TO DISCUSS EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS, ELECTRO-
MAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY, TRAINING, ETC., AND (C) FURTHER
VISIT BY CONSTRUCTION SPECIALISTS IN MAY.

4. MANDESCU INDICATED ROMANIANS PLAN BUILD ERS AGRICUL-
TURAL APPLICATIONS CENTER IN NEXT YEAR TO DEAL WITH CROP
INVENTORY AND HARVEST PREDICTIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION
THEY APPARENTLY HOPE FOR COOPERATION OF PURDUE PROFESSOR
BAUMGARDNER. MANDESCU INQUIRED POSSIBILITY COOPERATION
THIS AREA WITH NASA.

5. NASA PROVIDED AVAILABLE TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION AND
EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY AGREEMENTS FOR STATION OPERATION
(ITALY AND IRAN), NOTED NECESSITY ROMANIAN DISCUSSIONS RE
OVERLAPPING STATION COVERAGE WITH ITALY AND IRAN TO
RATIONALIZE DATA PRODUCT MARKET AND INSURE ACCESS TO DATA
ALL AREAS.

6. MANDESCU WAS ADVISED ROMANIANS SHOULD BEGIN DISCUSSIONS
WITH INDUSTRY RE AVAILABILITY EQUIPMENT FOR LANDSAT GROUND
STATIONS AND WITH OTHER COUNTRIES RE GROUND STATION EXPERI-
ENCE, E.G., ITALY, BRAZIL, CANADA, ETC. (FYI. IT IS NOT
CERTAIN ALL DESIRED EQUIPMENT CAN BE LICENSED FOR EXPORT;
S. DOYLE, NASA DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR INTERNA-
TIONAL AFFAIRS, INFORMED MANDESCU IN NEW YORK THAT FEDERAL
LAW DOES REGULATE EXPORT OF THIS TYPE OF HARDWARE, AND
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EXPORT LICENSES WOULD BE REQUIRED. END FYI.)

7. NASA FORWARDING IN SEPTEL APRIL 6-21 ITINERARY FOR
ROMANIAN VISIT TO NASA CENTERS. ROMANIANS WILL BE
RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGING VISITS TO COMPANIES AND UNIVER-
SITIES.

8. RE TRAINING, NASA INDICATED IT DOES NOT PROVIDE
TRAINING PER SE, BUT, IF GROUND STATION AGREEMENT CON-
CLUDED, COULD CONSIDER ON-JOB TRAINING 1-2 SPECIALISTS IN
STATION OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE. FOR TRAINING IN DATA
ANALYSIS AND APPLICATIONS, ROMANIANS SHOULD CONSULT
UNIVERSITIES OR COMPANIES (LISTS PROVIDED TO MANDESCU) AND
DEPARTMENT INTERIOR EROS DATA CENTER.

9. COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURAL APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE,
E.G., EXCHANGE OF GROUND TRUTH AND COMPARISON RESULTS.
(FYI. ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES MAY INVOLVE PROPRIETARY INFORMA-
TION. END FYI.)

10. ON COOPERATION IN ROCKET METEOROLOGY, ROMANIANS WISH LEARN (A) LAUNCH PROCEDURES SMALL METEOROLOGICAL ROCKETS,

AND (B) HOW TO INTERPRET DATA. MANDESCU WAS TOLD NASA NEEDS SPECIFIC PROPOSAL INCORPORATING SCIENTIFIC OBJECTIVES OF SUFFICIENT INTEREST TO WARRANT NASA PARTICIPATION (DUBIOUS). MANDESCU SAID APRIL DELEGATION WOULD BRING SPECIFIC COOPERATIVE PROPOSAL.

11. RE ROMANIAN DESIRE FLY ASTRONAUT IN SPACELAB/SHUTTLE, NASA REPS MADE CLEAR FLYING FOREIGN ASTRONAUT (NON-PILOT) POSSIBLE ONLY WHERE REQUIRED IN CONJUNCTION WITH APPROVED COOPERATIVE OR COMMERCIAL PAYLOAD REQUIRING ON-BOARD PRESENCE OF TECHNICIAN OR SCIENTIST. MANDESCU MENTIONED POSSIBILITY SENDING 1-2 PHYSICIANS TO DISCUSS SHUTTLE EXPERIMENT WITH NASA SPECIALISTS.
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12. IN RELATED MATTER, FRUTKIN MET WITH ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR NICOLAE FEBRUARY 15 AT LATTER'S REQUEST TO MAKE ACQUAINTANCE AND REVIEW BILATERAL SPACE RELATIONS. NICOLAE INDICATED ROMANIA SEEKING SOME FOCUS OF COOPERATION WITH NASA, BELIEVES THIS NOW FOUND IN LANDSAT GROUND STATION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, CONSTRUCTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TRACKING STATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE053685
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770083-0504
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770372/aaaacigt.tel
Line Count: 149
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b6eb3dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NASA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3146329
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROMANIAN DISCUSSIONS WITH NASA FOR SCIATT
TAGS: TSPA, RO, US, NASA
To: BUCHAREST
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b6eb3dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009